

25 July 2002

The Company Secretary Silliker Limited Park Road Overseal Swadlincote DE12 6JT Arthur Andersen

Four Brindleyplace Birmingham B1 2HZ

Tel 0121 644 2000 Fax 0121 644 2100

www.andersen.com

Dear Sir,

We hereby submit our resignation as auditors of the following companies with effect from 31 July 2002.

Silliker Limited

British Analytical Control Limited

Silverdell Microbiology Limited

2605+9

In accordance with section 394 of the Companies Act 1985, we confirm that there are no circumstances connected with our ceasing to hold office that we consider should be brought to the attention of the companies' members or creditors.

Yours faithfully,

Anthu Anderson

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Offices in: London Birmingham Bristol Cambridge Edinburgh Glasgow Leeds Manchester Newcastle Reading St Heller A list of partners is available at 180 Strand London WC2R 1BL (principal place of business) J. 8-A2-H)